K. Takayama et al.U.S. Serial No. 10/722,332Page 2 of 10

## Amendments to the specification:

On page 7, third paragraph, please amend the specification as follows:

Here, applying the method of Document 2 to the magnetic recording medium of Document 1 only results in a widened margin of the reproducing power, thus failing to obtain sufficient evercivety coercivity of the magnetic recording medium. Without sufficient coercivity[[]], it is not possible to attain stable retention of recorded information and stable reproduction of the recorded information in a case the size of the record unit of the magnetic recording medium is small.